

Chris Kau

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Experience

PROJECT LEAD / SENIOR RESEARCH ENGINEER - IBM RESEARCH, SAN JOSE, CA *DECEMBER 2010 TO PRESENT*

Project Lead and UI/UX Designer in the Intelligence Augmentation group at IBM Research. My team and I take a combined human-centered and technology-inspired approach to building AI products powered by machine learning.

Responsibilities include designing, prototyping and developing research prototypes for mobile, web, and other devices as part of numerous research efforts with a strong focus on innovative and novel user interfaces and interaction models.

SW ENGINEERING MANAGER & TECH LEAD - CULTURED CODE, STUTT GART, GERMANY *MARCH 2009 TO DECEMBER 2010*

Managed other employees and contractors to define scope and priority of features and bug fixes. Developed and maintained project schedules, identified risks and communicated them as well as mitigation strategies to stakeholders.

Worked closely with the founders to develop, introduce, and establish a software development process that matches the philosophy of Cultured Code and the extremely high expectations regarding user experience and functionality.

Contributed directly to the development of [Things Mac](#) by implementing new features and through extensive refactoring of the existing code base, changing the underlying architecture to increase maintainability, improve performance and stability.

Things Mac won the 2009 Apple Design Award in the Mac OS X Leopard Developer Showcase.

LEAD SOFTWARE ARCHITECT - IBM, DUBLIN, IRELAND *AUGUST 2006 TO FEBRUARY 2009*

Provided technical leadership to multiple engineering teams, responsible for the technical direction, delivery and implementation of [IBM Lotus Workforce Management](#), an innovative HR Portal solution accessing SAP systems. Defined product scope and feature set as well as the roadmap, driving the future direction and overall product strategy in accordance with business requirements.

Deliverable included HR Self Service functionality for employees and managers as well as development tools to allow developers to rapidly implement new Self Service functionality. Oversaw the full development life-cycle for version 1.0, 1.0.0.1, and 6.1 of IBM Lotus Workforce Management.

Lead the design of a flexible and extensible product architecture and platform. Components built for IBM Lotus Workforce Management are reused extensively by other IBM Portal Accelerators. Supervised the technical implementation, working hands-on with junior architects, team leads and developers. Contributed to the implementation of core components of the system.

Built and lead a team of 3-5 software architects and 25-30 software engineers. Coached and mentored team leads and junior developers. Introduced and established honest, agile and pragmatic software development practices. The teams adopted and evolved a culture of constant focus on relevant features, high quality deliverables and delivery on schedule.

Skills

Programming Languages:
Objective-C, Swift, JavaScript, Python, Shell Scripting

Tools:
Xcode, Instruments, Sketch, Framar Studio, git

Patents & Publications

7 Issued Patents
11 Pending Patent Applications
6 Publications in peer reviewed journals and conferences

Awards

2015 IBM Master Inventor
2009 Apple Design Award

Languages

Fluent in English and German

SOFTWARE ARCHITECT - IBM, DUBLIN, IRELAND

MARCH 2005 TO AUGUST 2006

Responsible for design, architecture, implementation, and technical direction of Composite Application Workflow in IBM WebSphere Portal 6.0, leading a team of 12-15 software engineers located in multiple geographies (Ireland, US, Germany and India). Composite Application Workflow allows business users to create and modify departmental workflows using a graphical workflow builder.

Oversaw all aspects of software engineering including development best-practices and process with a focus on system performance and scalability. Introduced an efficient, streamlined development process based on honest, agile, and pragmatic practices.

In Q3 2005 selected for and enrolled in the IBM Technical Resources program by IBM Executive Management. The programs purpose is to identify, develop and deploy top technical talent within IBM. Only the top 5% of technical talent within IBM are included.

SOFTWARE ARCHITECT - HUBBUCH GMBH, STUTTGART, GERMANY

APRIL 2000 TO FEBRUARY 2005

Initiated and spearheaded the application modernization efforts, architected a SOAP web services API in cooperation with international clients. Technical lead for 8 software engineers. Opened a new source of revenue, overall turnover increased by 12%. Added value to the existing applications, gained competitive advantage.

SOFTWARE ENGINEER - HUBBUCH GMBH, STUTTGART, GERMANY

APRIL 1998 TO MARCH 2000

Successfully lead the project team responsible for the Euro conversion for the [International Herald Tribune, Paris](#), including analysis of existing code base, development of concepts and overseeing as well as implementing the necessary modifications.

Developed a graphical user interface for the host-based legacy application running on the IBM iSeries (now IBM Power Systems) midrange computer system.

Education

UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES, BREMEN, GERMANY

OCTOBER 1996 TO FEBRUARY 1998

Business Administration specializing in applied languages of the economic world, i.e. Japanese, degree course.

Courses in: Information Technology, Finance, Economics, Law, English and Japanese.

CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY EICHSTAETT, EICHSTAETT, GERMANY

APRIL 1995 TO JUNE 1996

Continued studies in Business Administration, degree course.

Courses in: Finance, Accounting, Economics, Law, Statistics, English and Information Technology.

EUROPEAN BUSINESS SCHOOL, OESTRICH-WINKEL, GERMANY

OCTOBER 1994 TO FEBRUARY 1995

Business Administration specializing in Information Management, degree course.

Courses in: Finance, Accounting, Economics, Mathematics, Decision Theory, Statistics, Law, English and Information Technology.